

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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(FOR KEY SEE REVERSE)

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1. Officially, until 1949 all German refugees were regarded by the Lithuanians as outcasts, and therefore they did not dare employ Germans and only occasionally did employ them for short periods. After 1949 the situation changed, since the Germans were officially registered, but then it was still difficult to get a job, since the Lithuanian farmers grew poor under the kolkhoz system and could not afford hired manpower. However, those among the farmers who had saved something during the time of independent farming sometimes hired Germans even though they were kolkhoz members; they often had to fulfill a certain norm, and hired help for this purpose in order to have free time for business of their own. Harvesting potatoes in fall 1949, [] about 10 rubles per day plus meals, and during the threshing season 15 to 20 rubles per day plus meals. It was very difficult to get a job in town, though some German refugee women managed to get jobs as charwomen and washwomen. The Germans were in a better position than the Lithuanians because the latter had to work constantly and were not able to move around and beg as the Germans could, having plenty of time and not checked by militia as thoroughly as the Lithuanians, who were suspected of being blackmarketeers. The average earnings of an unskilled Lithuanian worker were 300 rubles. Wages were all net, since there were no deductions for taxes, etc. However, everybody receiving a salary was supposed to sign for the State bond, and nobody would refuse. As to the better salaries, [] a militiaman with the rank of pfc received 800 rubles per month, and a major 3000 rubles per month. [] a painter in Kedainiai [] worked privately and later was compelled to join an artel. He earned about 400-500 rubles per month and had an apartment of two small rooms, with a fireplace of clay in one of the rooms. There were no waterpipes and the toilet was outside the apartment in the yard. For this apartment the painter paid 28 rubles rent per month.

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Note: Washington Distribution Indicated By "X"; Field Distribution By "#".

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2. [redacted] prices:

Article	Unit	Price (in rubles)
Dress, poor quality, cotton		50 rb
Dress, poor quality, silk		300 rb (in Germany, material for such a dress would cost 2 DM per m)
Underwear, ladies', complete		50 rb
Slip, ladies'		30 rb
Bread, rye,	1 kg	5 rb
Butter	1 kg	30 rb
Chocolate.	one bar	30 rb
Candy, poor quality	100 gr	3 rb
Movie theater admittance		3 rb

3. No previous booking or order from a doctor was necessary to gain admittance into the maternity ward of the hospital. Treatment in the hospital was very good, and the personnel, Lithuanian, was inclined to help the Germans. Nobody had to pay for the treatment in a hospital.

25X1 [redacted]
 25X1 [redacted]
 25X1 [redacted]
 25X1 [redacted] The dentist was also free, but the German refugees in Kedainiai did not like to visit the dentist there, since he was [redacted] very rude, and the Germans assumed that he purposely caused pain, taking revenge for German cruelties [redacted]

4. Though the repatriation plan was announced, nobody believed that it would come soon since the talks about repatriation started in 1949. [redacted] in Riga [redacted] it was ordered that all Germans should be ready for transport on 1 May, 1951. [redacted]

25X1 [redacted]
 25X1 [redacted]
 25X1 [redacted]
 25X1 [redacted]

5. There was a direct train to Riga via Siauliai-Yelgava. Two trains covered the same distance: one was the train Vilnius - Kaunas - Siauliai - Yelgava - Riga, running every other day, and the other train was from Lvov via Minsk - Vilnius - Kaunas - Siauliai - Yelgava - Riga. [redacted]

25X1 [redacted] On the train from Vilnius there were Lithuanian conductors who were kind to German refugees, and on the train from Lvov the personnel was Soviet. [redacted]

25X1 [redacted]
 25X1 [redacted]
 25X1 [redacted] There were also trains from Siauliai to Riga at 0100, at 1100, and 1400. The trains from Riga to Siauliai departed at about 1600 or 1700 and at 2000. The ticket from Siauliai to Riga cost 36 rubles; and on the rapid train, a diesel railway motorcar, the fare was much more expensive. To gain access to the platform in Kedainiai, Panevezys, or Siauliai one had to present a ticket or a platform-access card. This platform-card cost one ruble. [redacted] that Lithuanians need permission to obtain a ticket to Latvia, probably because so many Lithuanian blackmarketeers went to Riga [redacted]

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6. The official language in the offices was Russian, but in the Lithuanian schools all topics were taught in Lithuanian, and the Russian language was only one of the subjects. On the other hand, in the Soviet schools in Lithuania, for the children of officials and army dependents, the Lithuanian language was taught as a subject.

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[redacted] The father concealed from his superiors the fact that he was attending a religious ceremony and therefore the baptism was carried out not in the church but at the priest's home [redacted] This priest lived in a separate one-family house with a garden and kept a hog. This priest also had some cows which were kept by members of his parish outside the town. The priest received all possible support from his parish, including food and money.

8. In Lithuanian towns one often could see peasants from the Ukraine SSR selling grain at the markets. They were kolkhozniki who carried their grain received for work on the kolkhoz to Lithuania and Latvia because the prices there were higher than in the Ukraine. The kolkhozniki were then able to buy items like thread, clothing, etc., cheaper than in the Ukraine. [redacted]

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[redacted] the mere fact that people came from the USSR to sell their grain was [redacted] enough evidence that a difference existed. One could easily recognize the kolkhozniki from the USSR because they were very poorly clad, and even the workers and kolkhozniki in Lithuania and Latvia had much better clothing. [redacted]

9.

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[redacted] the local Lithuanian militiaman in Kedainiai. This militiaman was not a Communist and served in the militia just to earn his living, since the salaries in the militia were comparatively high. He had a rank corresponding to a pfc and received about 800 rubles per month. Until 1949 there were few indigenous militiamen in service; but, starting in 1950, more and more Lithuanians and Latvians were seen among the militiamen. The official language in the militia offices was Russian and all the plates on the office doors were in Russian. When among countrymen, the Lithuanian militiamen spoke Lithuanian. The chief of the rayon militia in Kedainiai was a Major Kiselev (fnu), who was a kind man. When the Germans were registered in the fall of 1949 they received a certificate valid only for three weeks and were supposed to leave Lithuania; Major Kiselev extended the certificates on his own responsibility until it was generally allowed for all Germans to stay till repatriation. In connection with the repatriation, many questionnaires had to be filled out, starting in 1949 [redacted]

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